



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 21, 2009

MAYOR JERRY SANDERS

FACT SHEET

MAYOR LAUNCHES CLEAN ENTERPRISE PROGRAM TO ENCOURAGE ENERGY-EFFICIENCY UPGRADES

Local Small Businesses Can Borrow Up to \$100,000 Interest-Free

Mayor Jerry Sanders today announced a major initiative to make energy-efficiency improvements affordable to small businesses within the city of San Diego through a no-interest loan program.

The San Diego Clean Enterprise Program provides interest-free financing for up to 10 years to fund energy-efficiency improvements for small businesses in the city of San Diego. Businesses can borrow up to \$100,000 to fund energy-efficiency improvements such as lighting retrofits, HVAC upgrades, water pumps and food-service equipment replacement.

“San Diego Clean Enterprise lets small business owners invest in money-saving improvements to their businesses, and this helps our economy,” said Sanders. “Money not spent on energy costs can be invested back into the business. It also strengthens San Diego’s clean-technology sector and further solidifies our leadership position in this very promising industry.”

The San Diego Clean Enterprise Program is a partnership between the city, CleanTECH San Diego and San Diego Gas & Electric. SDG&E will provide funding for the program, while CleanTECH San Diego will administer the program, collaborating with local business and community groups to help market the program to potential participants.

The city will work with its departments to identify opportunities to promote the program to businesses that stand to benefit from the program. The program has no cost to the city.

To qualify for the Clean Enterprise Program, businesses must have an SDG&E account that has been active for the past two years and receive a rebate or incentive through an SDG&E energy-efficiency program.

The interest-free loan applies to energy-efficiency costs not covered by existing rebates or incentives, and must be paid back through the businesses' monthly SDG&E bill.

San Diego Clean Enterprise will go into effect on June 1. To find out if your business's energy-efficient improvements are eligible for the program, contact CleanTECH San Diego at 858.455.0300.

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